

Health News Release

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State revokes, suspends licenses, certifications, registrations of health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has revoked or suspended the licenses, certifications, or registrations of health care providers in our state. The department has also immediately suspended the credentials of people who have been prohibited from practicing in other states.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency's website. Click on "Look up a healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health home page (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Asotin County

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of registered nurse **Angela M. Kaschmitter** (RN00161102). Her Washington license was immediately suspended in April after her Idaho nursing license was suspended for drug diversion and other charges.

Benton County

In June 2012 the Medical Commission suspended the credential of physician assistant **April A. May** (PA10004379) for violating the terms of a previous order when she tested positive for substance abuse.

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of registered nurse **Amber N. Meyer** (00142511) for failing to comply with an agreed order for substance abuse monitoring. She was convicted of driving under the influence and tested positive for controlled substances.

Clark County

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In June 2012 the Department of Health suspended the credential of health care assistant **Mary C. Sanders** (HC00156592, HC00149836) for at least two years. Sanders attempted to fill a number of fraudulent prescriptions for hydrocodone.

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of registered nurse **Karla Bouvette** (RN00072833) for failing to comply with an order to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program.

Grays Harbor

In July 2012 licensed massage practitioner **Odin E. Anderson** (MA00018828) voluntarily surrendered his credential. He was convicted of assault and malicious mischief. He may never practice massage in the state.

King County

In June 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Krystal J. Shoulders** (NC10100007) for two years. Shoulders took a patient's electronic benefits transfer card without permission to purchase groceries for her personal use.

In June 2012 the Department of Health suspended the credential of surgical technologist **Jennifer D. Crane** (ST00001568). Crane stole a coworker's prescription for Vicodin and filled it for her personal use. Her credential has expired but was eligible for renewal.

In June 2012 the Department of Health suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Gregory D. George** (NC10062570) for 10 years. He has felony convictions for stealing from a patient. His credential has expired but was eligible for renewal.

Lewis County

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the license of registered nurse **Lindsay C. Watson** (RN00174236). She was convicted twice for possession of heroin, once for methamphetamine, and for operating a vehicle under the influence. She must provide evidence of being clean and sober for at least 24 months before applying for reinstatement of her license.

Pierce County

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of registered nurse **Ute A. Baumer** (RN00162130) for 60 months. Baumer was convicted of driving under the influence. She also made errors in administering medication, and provided prescription medications to patients inappropriately. Her credential was expired but was eligible for renewal.

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of licensed practical nurse **Alison Marie Miller** (LP60116883). Miller was convicted of second and third degree assault.

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In July 2011 the Department of Health suspended the credential of licensed massage practitioner **Gillian Doreen Meyer** (MA60253942) for failing to comply with an order to enter a substance abuse monitoring program.

Skagit County

In June 2012 the Department of Health suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Benjamin B. Fernandes** (NA60194934). Fernandes was convicted of solicitation to possess a controlled substance and driving under the influence.

Spokane County

In June 2012 the Chiropractic Commission suspended the credential of chiropractor **Chad W. Bess** (CH00034347) for five years. In November 2010, Bess told a police officer that he was addicted to Oxycontin, and in December 2011 he was arrested for possession of methamphetamine. He has not responded to repeated requests by the commission to provide information on the allegations. His credential was expired.

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of registered nurse **Jeannie Loretta Thorpe** (RN60103041). She was charged with taking methadone intended for a patient for her personal use. She later tested positive for methadone.

Thurston County

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of licensed practical nurse **Voula Spatharis** (00049514) for five years. She was convicted of first-degree identity theft and theft. She stole thousands of dollars from a family member in her care and used the family member's identity to open and use credit cards.

Walla Walla

In June 2012 the Pharmacy Board suspended the credential of pharmacist **Nathaniel A. Baker** (PH00052633) for 10 years. He diverted large quantities of controlled substances for his personal use and to sell to a known drug dealer. His credential is currently expired.

In June 2012 the Department of Health suspended the credentials of certified and registered nursing assistant **Yesenia C. Sandoval** (NA00199121, NC60024832) for 10 years. Sandoval abused, assaulted, and neglected a patient under her care and attempted to conceal the injuries she inflicted. In 2011 the Department of Social and Health Services found that she had abused and neglected a vulnerable adult in an adult family home. She may not be employed in the care of vulnerable adults in Washington. Her credentials are currently expired.

Out of State

Arizona

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In June 2012 the Nursing Commission immediately suspended the credential of licensed practical nurse **Deborah Ann Lopez** (LP00056647) after the Arizona State Board of Nursing revoked her practical nurse license for violating the law for obtaining and using drugs.

California

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the license of registered nurse **Joni Denise Love** (RN60143010) after the California Nursing Board revoked her license after she was found to be under the influence of alcohol while working as a nurse. Her Washington credential was immediately suspended in April 2012.

Idaho

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission immediately suspended the credential of registered nurse **Julianna F. Zulli** (RN00158090) after her Idaho credential was revoked for diverting medication for personal use and working under the influence of a controlled substance.

Minnesota

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the credential of registered nurse **Theresa M. Welna** (RN00131021). Her credential was immediately suspended in February 2012 after her Minnesota license was suspended for charting discrepancies and diverting controlled substances.

Oregon

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission suspended the credential of registered nurse **Jerie E. Parish** (RN00163454) after she voluntarily surrendered her Oregon nursing license following charges that she used marijuana and was unable to practice medicine safely.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

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